

Georgia's 12th District Congressman votes against drastic \$3.7 billion cut in the Farm Bill

Washington, DC - At today's meeting of the House Agricultural Committee, members of the Committee voted on a handful of measures specifically tailored to slice \$3.7 billion out of the federal Farm Bill - targeting funding for commodity programs like Upland Cotton 2, and numerous renewable energy and rural development initiatives.

Georgia Congressman John Barrow (12th District), a member of the House Agriculture Committee, voted against each of the measures. Shortly after, he issued the following statement:

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"I cannot and will not support efforts to balance the budget on the backs of our nation's farmers. With commodity prices dropping and energy costs skyrocketing, we should be working to help America's farmers, not hurt them.

"The Farm Bill is a promise made to America's farmers, and Congress has a responsibility to keep its word. I've met with farm families, producers, and small business owners all across my district, and they've all described just how important the Farm Bill is to our nation's rural communities.

"Right now, our country is faced with an \$8 trillion deficit, and it's important that we work together to find responsible ways to save money and bring fiscal sanity back to the federal budget. However, if we're serious about cutting waste, the Farm Bill is the last place we look. The Farm Bill has come in at \$11 billion less than projected - that's \$11 billion in taxpayer savings right there. When you consider just how fiscally sound the Farm Bill has been, it's unfair, and uncalled for, to cut billions from the Farm Bill."

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